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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/783,834	02/20/2004	Kwang-Hee Park	678-1149	7503
66547 7590 08/09/2007 THE FARRELL LAW FIRM, P.C. 333 EARLE OVINGTON BOULEVARD SUITE 701 UNIONDALE, NY 11553			EXAMINER DUONG, CHRISTINE T	
			ART UNIT 2616	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 08/09/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/783,834

Applicant(s)

PARK, KWANG-HEE

Examiner

Christine Duong

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 13, 14, 19-26 and 30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11, 12, 15-18 and 27-29 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 07/22/2004.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The references listed in the Information Disclosure Statement, filed on 22 July 2004, have been considered by the examiner (see attached PTO-1449 form or PTO/SB/08A and 08B forms).

Claim Objections

3. **Claims 1, 8, 19 and 30** are objected to because of the following informalities:
Regarding **Claims 1, 8, 19 and 30**, it is suggested to replace "can be provided" with --is provided--. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
5. **Claims 19 and 30** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding **Claim 19**, the language used in lines 10-11, "determining whether the first and second services are provided as the concurrent service if the first and second services are not provided concurrently", makes the limitation confusing. For the examination on the merits, the claims will be interpreted as best understood.

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Regarding **Claim 30**, the language used in lines 9-11, "a fourth function for determining whether the first and second services are provided as the concurrent service if the first and second services are not provided concurrently", makes the limitation confusing. For the examination on the merits, the claims will be interpreted as best understood.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. **Claims 1-8** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nakagawa (PG Pub US 2003/0223604 A1).

Regarding **Claim 1**, Nakagawa discloses a voice processing method in a mobile terminal which provides for a concurrent service that concurrently provides at least two services, each service requiring voice output (**Fig. 1**), comprising the steps of:

prioritizing services that can be provided as the concurrent service ("**the information items representing the different priority levels that are assigned to the sound source devices 12, 13 and 14**", [0033] Lines 6-8);

comparing the priority levels of a first service and a second service if the second service is to be received during the first service in progress (**“if a sound source device is connected by radio to the apparatus 11 and has a higher priority level than the sound source device now selected, the sound source for the apparatus 11 will be automatically switched to the sound source device newly connected to the apparatus 11”**, [0034] Lines 8-13),

selecting one of the first and second services that has a higher priority level and outputting voice from the selected service (**“the wireless audio output apparatus 11 compares the priority levels of the sound source devices that are connected to it and selects the sound source device having the highest priority level”**, [0034] Lines 5-8).

Regarding **Claim 2**, Nakagawa discloses everything claimed as applied above (see *Claim 1*). In addition, upon input of a voice switching signal during the voice output from the selected service, switching to voice output from the other service (**“if a sound source device is connected by radio to the apparatus 11 and has a higher priority level than the sound source device now selected, the sound source for the apparatus 11 will be automatically switched to the sound source device newly connected to the apparatus 11”**, [0034] Lines 8-13).

Regarding **Claim 3**, Nakagawa discloses everything claimed as applied above (see *Claim 1*). In addition, the services are prioritized by user selection (**“the user can therefore assign any priority levels he or she wants to the sound source devices 12 and 13”**, [0038] Lines 3-4).

Regarding **Claim 4**, Nakagawa discloses everything claimed as applied above (see *Claim 2*). In addition, the services are prioritized by user selection (**“the user can therefore assign any priority levels he or she wants to the sound source devices 12 and 13”, [0038] Lines 3-4**).

Regarding **Claim 5**, Nakagawa discloses everything claimed as applied above (see *Claim 1*). In addition, the services are prioritized by prioritizing programs for performing the services (**“the wireless audio output apparatus 11 has the function of automatically switching any one of the sound source devices 12, 13 and 14 to another, as source of sound to be output by the apparatus 11. The automatic switching of sound source is performed in accordance with priority information”, [0033] Lines 1-6**).

Regarding **Claim 6**, Nakagawa discloses everything claimed as applied above (see *Claim 2*). In addition, the services are prioritized by prioritizing programs for performing the services (**“the wireless audio output apparatus 11 has the function of automatically switching any one of the sound source devices 12, 13 and 14 to another, as source of sound to be output by the apparatus 11. The automatic switching of sound source is performed in accordance with priority information”, [0033] Lines 1-6**).

Regarding **Claim 7**, Nakagawa discloses everything claimed as applied above (see *Claim 2*). In addition, the voice switching signal is generated using a predetermined unused ASCII code (**“the user can easily set a priority level to the sound source device, by only operating the ten-key pad”, [0086] Lines 3-5**).

Regarding **Claim 8**, Nakagawa discloses a computer-readable recording medium in a mobile terminal having a processor, comprising a program (**Fig. 3**),

wherein the program performs a first function for prioritizing at least two services that can be provided as a concurrent service, each service requiring voice output ("**the information items representing the different priority levels that are assigned to the sound source devices 12, 13 and 14**", [0033] Lines 6-8), a second function for comparing the priority levels of a first service and a second service if the second service is to be received during the first service in progress ("**if a sound source device is connected by radio to the apparatus 11 and has a higher priority level than the sound source device now selected, the sound source for the apparatus 11 will be automatically switched to the sound source device newly connected to the apparatus 11**", [0034] Lines 8-13), and a third function for selecting one of the first and second services that has a higher priority level and outputting voice from the selected service ("**the wireless audio output apparatus 11 compares the priority levels of the sound source devices that are connected to it and selects the sound source device having the highest priority level**", [0034] Lines 5-8).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. **Claims 9-10 and 13-14** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakagawa further in view of Pehrsson (US Patent No. 6,937,852 B2) and Uda (PG Pub US 2003/0008689 A1).

Regarding **Claim 9**, Nakagawa discloses a mobile terminal capable of switching between voice outputs (**Fig. 3**), comprising:

a controller (**system control unit 32, Fig. 3**) for controlling functions including mobile communication and wireless Internet connection ("**the system control unit 32 is a processor that controls some of the other components of the wireless audio output apparatus 11. The unit 32 executes the programs stored in the memory device 31 to control the audio-data generating unit 33, audio-data outputting unit 34, prior-connection request analyzing unit 35, sound-source switching unit 36 and wireless communication device 37**", [0054] Lines 4-11);

a storage (**memory device 31, Fig. 3**) for storing programs required for the operation of the controller and data ("**the memory device 31 is, for example, a nonvolatile memory. The device 31 stores programs and various data items. The programs are used to control an operation of the wireless audio output apparatus 11**", [0054] Lines 1-4);

a radio frequency (RF) module (**wireless communication device 37, Fig. 3**) for communicating RF signals with a base station over a mobile communication network through an antenna ("**the wireless communication device 37 comprises a base-band processing unit and a RF unit. It operates to establish wireless connection between the apparatus 11 and the sound source device that has transmitted a**

wireless-connection request, to accomplish wireless communication between the apparatus 11 and that sound source device”, [0059] Lines 1-6; where the antenna 113 can be seen in Fig. 1);

a keypad having keys for data input (“most sound source devices such as audio players, mobile phones and the like have an input device such as a ten-key pad, which functions as user interface”, [0086] Lines 1-3).

a voice coder/decoder (CODEC) connected to the controller (the following elements either alone or in combination of audio-data generating unit 33 and audio-data outputting unit 34, Fig. 3), for receiving a voice signal from the controller and decoding the voice signal (“it receives an audio data stream from the sound source device selected at present, via the wireless communication device 37 and the system control unit 32, and then converts the audio data stream to an electric signal that the headphone 111 can convert into sound”, [0056] Lines 6-11); and

a voice switch (sound source switching unit 36, Fig. 3) for switching the decoded voice signal received from the voice CODEC to a selected output device under the control of the controller, so that different voice outputs are connected to different output devices (“the sound-source switching unit 36 is a device that selects a sound source device from which the apparatus 11 should acquire audio data”, [0058] Lines 1-3).

However, although Nakagawa discloses “the wireless communication between the wireless audio output apparatus 11 and anyone of the sound source devices is implemented by a short-range communications system that accords

with the BLUETOOTH standards” (Nakagawa [0026] Lines 14), Nakagawa fails to specifically disclose that the controller controls wireless Internet connection and that the different voice outputs are connected to different output devices, as claimed.

Nevertheless, Pehrsson teaches **“the decoder path accepts a PCM signal on its PCM input 12 from the DSP 8 and generates analogue signals for output on first earphone/line outputs 13a,13b or a second earphone/line output 14” (Pehrsson, Column 3, Lines 36-39 and Fig. 1) and “when the handsfree device is connected and the two speech encoder paths operate simultaneously according to the invention, the fixed earphone 15 and the handsfree earphone 16 also operate simultaneously” (Pehrsson, Column 3, Lines 49-52).**

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Nakagawa’s invention to support different output devices for difference voice outputs because, in the case that both inputs are voice calls, **“A can make a call to C and instead of using the regular handset both A and B speak with C through the additional microphone and listen to C via the additional loudspeaker” (Pehrsson, Column 1, Lines 46-49).**

Additionally, Nakagawa and Pehrsson disclose everything as described above. However, Nakagawa and Pehrsson fail to specifically disclose that the controller controls wireless Internet connection.

Nevertheless, Uda teaches having **“access to the network (such as the Internet)” (Uda [0007] Lines 4-5) for the wireless portable terminal device as shown in Fig. 1.**

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Nakagawa's and Pehrsson's device to have wireless Internet connection because **"a character of a wireless portable terminal device, which has been principally used for voice communication, is more strengthened as an information communication terminal"** (Uda [0007] Lines 4).

Regarding **Claim 10**, Nakagawa, Pehrsson and Uda disclose everything claimed as applied above (see *Claim 9*). However, Nakagawa fails to specifically disclose that the voice CODEC has a first output terminal assigned to one of two services being concurrently received, for outputting voice from the service, and a second output terminal assigned to the other service for outputting voice from the other service; and wherein the voice switch connects has first and second input terminals and first and second output terminals and the first and second input terminals to the first and second output terminals such that paths for outputting the voices from the services are established to different output devices, as claimed.

Nevertheless, Pehrsson teaches a **fixed earphone 15** and a **handsfree earphone 16 (Fig. 1)** where **"when the handsfree device is connected and the two speech encoder paths operate simultaneously according to the invention, the fixed earphone 15 and the handsfree earphone 16 also operate simultaneously"** (Pehrsson Column 3, Lines 49-53).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the voice switch to have two input and two

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output terminals to provide for different output devices for different output voices because in the case that both inputs are voice calls, **“each user (party A or B) receives also the other user’s (party B or A) voice signals” (Pehrsson Column 3, Lines 64-65).**

Regarding **Claim 13**, Nakagawa, Pehrsson and Uda disclose everything claimed as applied above (see *Claim 9*). In addition, Nakagawa disclose that the different output devices are a speaker and an earphone (**headphone 111, Fig. 1**).

However, Nakagawa fails to specifically disclose that the additional output device is a speaker, as claimed.

Nevertheless, Pehrsson teaches **“an additional fixed loudspeaker” (Pehrsson, Column 1, Lines 45).**

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a speaker as the additional output device because **“A can ... listen to C via the additional loudspeaker” (Pehrsson, Column 1, Lines 46-49).**

Regarding **Claim 14**, Nakagawa, Pehrsson and Uda disclose everything claimed as applied above (see *Claim 10*). In addition, Nakagawa disclose that the different output devices are a speaker and an earphone (**headphone 111, Fig. 1**).

However, Nakagawa fails to specifically disclose that the additional output device is a speaker, as claimed.

Nevertheless, Pehrsson teaches **“an additional fixed loudspeaker” (Pehrsson, Column 1, Lines 45 and Fig. 1).**

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a speaker as the additional output device because **"A can ... listen to C via the additional loudspeaker" (Pehrsson, Column 1, Lines 46-49).**

10. **Claims 19-26 and 30** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakagawa further in view of Pehrsson.

Regarding **Claim 19**, Nakagawa discloses a voice processing method which provides for a concurrent service that concurrently provides at least two services, each service requiring voice output, in a mobile terminal capable of switching different voice outputs to different output devices (**Fig. 1**), comprising the steps of:

prioritizing services that can be provided as the concurrent service (**"the information items representing the different priority levels that are assigned to the sound source devices 12, 13 and 14"**, [0033] Lines 6-8);

determining whether a first service and a second service are to be provided concurrently if the second service is received during the first service in progress (**"if a sound source device is connected by radio to the apparatus 11 and has a higher priority level than the sound source device now selected, the sound source for the apparatus 11 will be automatically switched to the sound source device newly connected to the apparatus 11"**, [0034] Lines 8-13),

determining whether the first and second services are provided as the concurrent service if the first and second services are not provided concurrently (**"if a sound source device is connected by radio to the apparatus 11 and has a higher priority**

level than the sound source device now selected, the sound source for the apparatus 11 will be automatically switched to the sound source device newly connected to the apparatus 11”, [0034] Lines 8-13);

selecting one of the first and second services and outputting voice from the selected service if the first and second services are not provided as the concurrent service (**“the user can change the priority level to a desired value by operating, for example, the interface button switch provided on the sound source device (#1) 12”, [0036], Lines 3-6); and**

selecting one of the first and second services that has a higher priority level and outputting voice from the higher-priority service if the first and second services are provided as the concurrent service (**“the wireless audio output apparatus 11 compares the priority levels of the sound source devices that are connected to it and selects the sound source device having the highest priority level”, [0034] Lines 5-8).**

However, Nakagawa fails to specifically disclose that outputting voices from the first and second services via different output paths if the first and second services are provided concurrently, as claimed.

Nevertheless, Pehrsson teaches **“the decoder path accepts a PCM signal on its PCM input 12 from the DSP 8 and generates analogue signals for output on first earphone/line outputs 13a,13b or a second earphone/line output 14”** (Pehrsson, Column 3, Lines 36-39 and Fig. 1) and **“when the handsfree device is connected and the two speech encoder paths operate simultaneously according**

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to the invention, the fixed earphone 15 and the handsfree earphone 16 also operate simultaneously” (Pehrsson, Column 3, Lines 49-52).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Nakagawa’s invention to support different output devices for difference voice outputs because, in the case that both inputs are voice calls, **“A can make a call to C and instead of using the regular handset both A and B speak with C through the additional microphone and listen to C via the additional loudspeaker” (Pehrsson, Column 1, Lines 46-49).**

Regarding **Claim 20**, Nakagawa and Pehrsson disclose everything claimed as applied above (see *Claim 19*). In addition, Nakagawa discloses upon input of a voice switching signal during the voice output from the high-priority service, switching to voice output from the other service (**“the sound source device 12 can transmits a wireless-connection request to the wireless audio output apparatus 11, every time it finishes reading one music data item, even after it is disconnected from the wireless audio output apparatus 11. The sound source device 12 is automatically selected again if the sound source device 13 is disconnected from the wireless audio output apparatus 11”, [0042] Lines 1-5).**

Regarding **Claim 21**, Nakagawa and Pehrsson disclose everything claimed as applied above (see *Claim 19*). In addition, Nakagawa discloses the services are prioritized by user selection (**“the user can therefore assign any priority levels he or she wants to the sound source devices 12 and 13”, [0038] Lines 3-4).**

Regarding **Claim 22**, Nakagawa and Pehrsson disclose everything claimed as applied above (see *Claim 20*). In addition, Nakagawa discloses the services are prioritized by user selection ("**the user can therefore assign any priority levels he or she wants to the sound source devices 12 and 13**", [0038] Lines 3-4).

Regarding **Claim 23**, Nakagawa and Pehrsson disclose everything claimed as applied above (see *Claim 19*). In addition, Nakagawa discloses the services are prioritized by prioritizing programs for performing the services ("**the wireless audio output apparatus 11 has the function of automatically switching any one of the sound source devices 12, 13 and 14 to another, as source of sound to be output by the apparatus 11. The automatic switching of sound source is performed in accordance with priority information**", [0033] Lines 1-6).

Regarding **Claim 24**, Nakagawa and Pehrsson disclose everything claimed as applied above (see *Claim 20*). In addition, Nakagawa discloses the services are prioritized by prioritizing programs for performing the services ("**the wireless audio output apparatus 11 has the function of automatically switching any one of the sound source devices 12, 13 and 14 to another, as source of sound to be output by the apparatus 11. The automatic switching of sound source is performed in accordance with priority information**", [0033] Lines 1-6).

Regarding **Claim 25**, Nakagawa and Pehrsson disclose everything claimed as applied above (see *Claim 20*). In addition, Nakagawa discloses the voice switching signal is generated by selecting a predetermined unused ASCII code ("**the user can**

easily set a priority level to the sound source device, by only operating the ten-key pad”, [0086] Lines 3-5).

Regarding **Claim 26**, Nakagawa and Pehrsson disclose everything claimed as applied above (see *Claim 19*). However, Nakagawa fails to specifically disclose that if the first and second services are provided concurrently, the output paths of voices from the first and second services are predetermined, as claimed.

Nevertheless, Pehrsson teaches **“input to a first earphone amplifier 25 for the fixed earphone 15 and/or to a second earphone amplifier 26 for the handsfree earphone 16” (Pehrsson, Column 4, Lines 36-39).**

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to predetermine the output paths of voices because **“the first earphone/line outputs 13a,13b are adapted for a conventional fixed earphone 15 and the second earphone/line output 14 is adapted for a handsfree earphone 16 of the portable handsfree device” (Pehrsson, Column 3, Lines 39-42).**

Regarding **Claim 30**, Nakagawa discloses a computer-readable recording medium in a mobile terminal having a processor and capable of switching different voice outputs to different output devices (**Fig. 1**), comprising a program,

wherein the program performs a first function for prioritizing services that can be provided as a concurrent service (**“the information items representing the different priority levels that are assigned to the sound source devices 12, 13 and 14”, [0033] Lines 6-8**), a second function for determining whether a first service and a second service are to be provided concurrently if the second service is received during

the first service in progress (**"if a sound source device is connected by radio to the apparatus 11 and has a higher priority level than the sound source device now selected, the sound source for the apparatus 11 will be automatically switched to the sound source device newly connected to the apparatus 11"**, [0034] Lines 8-13), a fourth function for determining whether the first and second services are provided as the concurrent service if the first and second services are not provided concurrently (**"if a sound source device is connected by radio to the apparatus 11 and has a higher priority level than the sound source device now selected, the sound source for the apparatus 11 will be automatically switched to the sound source device newly connected to the apparatus 11"**, [0034] Lines 8-13), and selecting one of the first and second services and outputting voice from the selected service if the first and second services are not provided as the concurrent service (**"the user can change the priority level to a desired value by operating, for example, the interface button switch provided on the sound source device (#1) 12"**, [0036], Lines 3-6), and a fifth function for selecting one of the first and second services that has a higher priority level and outputting voice from the higher-priority service if the first and second services are provided as the concurrent service (**"the wireless audio output apparatus 11 compares the priority levels of the sound source devices that are connected to it and selects the sound source device having the highest priority level"**, [0034] Lines 5-8).

However, Nakagawa fails to specifically disclose that a third function for outputting voices from the first and second services via different output paths if the first and second services are provided concurrently, as claimed.

Nevertheless, Pehrsson teaches **“the decoder path accepts a PCM signal on its PCM input 12 from the DSP 8 and generates analogue signals for output on first earphone/line outputs 13a,13b or a second earphone/line output 14”** (Pehrsson, Column 3, Lines 36-39 and Fig. 1) and **“when the handsfree device is connected and the two speech encoder paths operate simultaneously according to the invention, the fixed earphone 15 and the handsfree earphone 16 also operate simultaneously”** (Pehrsson, Column 3, Lines 49-52).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Nakagawa's invention to support different output devices for difference voice outputs because, in the case that both inputs are voice calls, **“A can make a call to C and instead of using the regular handset both A and B speak with C through the additional microphone and listen to C via the additional loudspeaker”** (Pehrsson, Column 1, Lines 46-49).

Allowable Subject Matter

11. **Claims 11-12, 15-18 and 27-29** are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Citation of Pertinent Prior Art

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Chrin et al. (US Patent No. 6,628,652 B1) discloses flexibly switching telecommunications signals. A plurality of input bit streams are connected to a telecommunications switching network fabric element comprising a microprocessor system including memory. The microprocessor system, under program control, performs switching and protocol conversion functions on the input streams in order to generate output streams.

Horiguchi et al. (PG Pub US 2002/0071387 A1) discloses an inter-network relay unit capable of simultaneously achieving guaranteed minimum bandwidth and priority control.

Conclusion

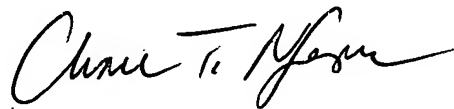
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christine Duong whose telephone number is (571) 270-1664. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday: 830 AM-6 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Seema Rao can be reached on (571) 272-3174. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CTD 08/02/2007 CTD



CHAU NGUYEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600